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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY RESPONSE – OUTCOMES OF COVID-19 COAG MEETING**

Chairman of the Shopping Centre Council of Australia, Peter Allen, said he welcomed the measured approach and guidance regarding non-essential, organised mass gatherings, announced by Prime Minister Morrison following today's COAG meeting. This approach excludes shopping centres as they are considered essential to the community.

Mr Allen said the shopping centre industry is taking necessary precautions and following relevant health advice to support their people and customers in response to COVID-19 whilst balancing business continuity for the local community and broader economy.

"Shopping centres provide essential services to local communities such as food and groceries, pharmacies, medical clinics and many other goods and services," Mr Allen said.

"Some 60% of Australia's GDP is consumption. Our industry and retail partners are large employers in the economy. We consider our industry essential in delivering on the Government's proposed economic stimulus and maintaining employment.

"Members of our industry will continue to take the necessary precautions to protect the safety and wellbeing of our customers, retailers and people whilst delivering the essential services local communities require every day of the week.

"Members of the community should be confident to go about their day-to-day activities including shopping."

Mr Allen said members of the shopping centre industry continue to monitor the evolving situation.

#### **Contact:**

Angus Nardi, Executive Director, Shopping Centre Council of Australia, 0408 079 184